POLITICO 2020 ELECTIONS Biden: Latino community is diverse, unlike the African American community' President Donald Trump quickly attacked Biden over the remark. Presumptive Democratic presidential candidate Joe Biden. Andrew Harnik/AP Photo By MATTHEW CHOI 08/06/2020 03:11 PM EDT Updated: 08/06/2020 09:15 PM EDT Joe Biden said in remarks on Wednesday that the Latino community is "incredibly diverse," "unlike" the Black community. "Unlike the African American community, with notable exceptions, the Latino community is an incredibly diverse community with incredibly diverse attitudes about different things," Biden said. "You go to Florida, you find a very different attitude about immigration than you do in Arizona. So it's a very diverse community." AD Biden made the comment during an interview hosted by the National Association of Hispanic Journalists and the National Association of Black Journalists that was released in full on Thursday. His remarks on diversity were a response to a question from NPR reporter Lulu Garcia-Navarro, who asked a question about whether Biden, the presumptive Democratic presidential nominee, would engage with Cuba and on the differing immigration concerns between Cuban and Venezuelan Americans. Biden's campaign said the comment was meant to describe the diversity of political opinion among Latino Americans and was not a judgment on cultural diversity. "If you look at the full video and transcript, it's clear that Vice President Biden was referring to diversity of attitudes among Latinos from different Latin American countries," Symone Sanders, a senior Biden campaign adviser, said in a statement. "The video that is circulating is conveniently cut to make this about racial diversity but that's not the case." But only moments after his campaign responded to POLITICO on his interview, Biden again contrasted Latino and Black Americans — this time explicitly on the topic of national and cultural origin. "We can build a new administration that reflects the full diversity of our nation. The full diversity of the Latino communities," Biden said. "Now when I mean full diversity, unlike African American community, many other communities, you're from everywhere. From Europe. From the tip of South America, all the way to our border and Mexico and in the Caribbean. And different backgrounds, different ethnicities, but all Latinos." ADBiden made those remarks during the virtual National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials conference. He eventually tweeted a thread further explaining what he meant by his comments later Thursday night. "In no way did I mean to suggest the African American community is a monolith — not by identity, not on issues, not at all," Biden wrote. "Throughout my career I've witnessed the diversity of thought, background, and sentiment within the African American community. It's this diversity that makes our workplaces, communities, and country a better place." "My commitment to you is this: I will always listen, I will never stop fighting for the African American community and I will never stop fighting for a more equitable future." Still, President Donald Trump's campaign was quick to attack Biden over his NAHJ/NABJ interview Thursday afternoon, saying it diminished the diversity of opinions among Black voters and calling it an example of "condescending white liberal racism." Katrina Pierson, a Trump campaign adviser, said in a statement that the former vice president "tells a group of Black reporters that 'you all know' that Black people think alike. There's a reason Joe Biden can't count on the support of Black voters and it's because of his plantation owner mentality." AD "Joe Biden would rather we all just shut up, get in line, and know our place," she said. Biden also drew criticism in May for saying that "you ain't Black" if "you have a problem figuring out whether you're for me or Trump." The Democratic candidate made the remarks during an interview with The Breakfast Club, a nationally syndicated radio show, and later apologized for his comments. Biden enjoys considerable support from an overwhelming majority of Black voters. A Washington Post/Ipsos poll from June found that 92 percent of Black voters support the former vice president. Latino support for Biden, meanwhile, hovers closer to 60 percent. Elsewhere in Biden's interview with the journalism associations, Biden bristled at a reporter's question about whether he has taken a cognitive test akin to the one Trump has bragged about acing. Biden replied to the question from CBS News correspondent Errol Barnett, who is Black, by saying "That's like saying to you, before you got on this program if you had taken a test were you taking cocaine or not. What do you think, huh? Are you a junkie?" Biden's campaign defended those comments by calling Barnett's question "preposterous" and "deserving of a response that showed the absurdity of it all." FILED UNDER: JOE BIDEN, JOE BIDEN 2020, (...) **MOST READ IMMIGRATION** 2 LOBBYING Biden slips into The porn political industry turns to quicksand amid K Street to fight Haitian migrant Trump-fueled buildup internet regulations **National Security Daily** From the SitRoom to the E-Ring, the inside scoop on defense, national security and foreign policy. **EMAIL** Your Email **INDUSTRY** Select Industry * All fields must be completed to subscribe. SIGN UP By signing up you agree to allow POLITICO to collect your user information and use it to better recommend content to you, send you email newsletters or updates from POLITICO, and share insights based on aggregated user information. You further agree to our privacy policy and terms of service. You can unsubscribe at any time and can contact us here. This site is protected by reCAPTCHA and the Google Privacy Policy and Terms of Service apply. O NEWS ABOUT PRESIDENT JOE BIDEN Biden to tap Wall Street critic Omarova as top bank cop Opinion | Failure on Biden's Reconcilation Bill Is Very Much an Option Biden nominates longtime allies for 3 ambassadorships Biden commits to communication with France after submarine spat Biden announces 'partnership' with EU on global vaccine

distribution effort

About Us

Advertising

Breaking News Alerts

Careers

Credit Card Payments

Digital Edition

FAQ

Feedback

Headlines

Photos

POWERJobs

Press

Print Subscriptions

Write For Us

RSS

Site Map

Terms of Service

Privacy Policy

Do not sell my info

Notice to California Residents

© 2021 POLITICO LLC